

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A photographic bleaching composition has reduced odor and acceptable storage stability. It comprises an iron-ligand complex bleaching agent, a rehalogenating agent, and a phthalic acid or salt thereof. This bleaching composition can be used in various photographic processing protocols to provide color images from color photographic silver halide materials, especially photographic color papers. The bleaching step can also be preceded by an acidic stop that also includes a phthalic acid or salt thereof.